AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-2. (cancelled)

3. (new) A method comprising:

a network management system (NMS) receiving a trap message from an agent, wherein the NMS has access to an NMS management information base (MIB), and wherein the agent has access to an agent MIB;

in response to receiving the trap message, the NMS conducting a walk operation on the agent MIB; and

based on a result of the walk operation, the NMS updating the NMS MIB.

4. (new) The method of claim 3, wherein the NMS stores the NMS MIB and the agent stores the agent MIB.

5. (new) The method of claim 3, wherein the trap message is a simple network management protocol (SNMP) trap message and the walk operation is an SNMP walk operation.

6. (new) The method of claim 3, wherein the NMS updating the NMS MIB comprises the NMS updating the NMS MIB to be synchronized with the agent MIB.

7. (new) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

the NMS transmitting at least part of the updated NMS MIB to the agent.

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8. (new) A method comprising:

an agent checking an object identifier (OID), wherein the agent has access to an agent

management information base (MIB);

the agent determining that the OID has changed;

in response to determining that the OID has changed, the agent transmitting a trap

message to a network management system (NMS), wherein the NMS has access to an NMS

MIB;

the agent receiving a walk operation request from the NMS; and

in response to receiving the walk operation request, the agent transmitting a walk

operation reply to the NMS.

9. (new) The method of claim 8, wherein the NMS stores the NMS MIB and the

agent stores the agent MIB.

10. (new) The method of claim 8, wherein the trap message is a simple network

management protocol (SNMP) trap message and the walk operation is an SNMP walk operation.

11. (new) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

the agent receiving at least part of an updated NMS MIB from the NMS.

12. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the updated NMS MIB was updated from

the NMS MIB.

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13. (new) The method of claim 8, wherein the OID is named MIB Info Last Change Time.

14. (new) A system comprising:

a network management system (NMS); and

an NMS management information base (MIB), wherein the NMS is configured to receive a trap message from an agent that has access to an agent MIB, in response to receiving the trap message, conduct a walk operation on the agent MIB, and based on a result of the walk operation, update the NMS MIB.

- 15. (new) The system of claim 14, wherein the NMS stores the NMS MIB and the agent stores the agent MIB.
- 16. (new) The system of claim 14, wherein the trap message is a simple network management protocol (SNMP) trap message and the walk operation is an SNMP walk operation.
- 17. (new) The system of claim 14, wherein the NMS updating the NMS MIB comprises the NMS updating the NMS MIB to be synchronized with the agent MIB.
- 18. (new) The system of claim 14, wherein the NMS is further configured to transmit at least part of the updated NMS MIB to the agent.

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